

SUMMARY

Prepared by Bob Marcolina



Diesel Initiatives Non-Road Workgroup Meeting
Held August 17, 2005 from 10:00-1:00
Meeting Location: NJ Regional Planning Agency, Newark
Meeting called by: Peg Hanna
Facilitator: Melinda Dower

Materials:

1. Further information on inventory:
 - ◆ Table L-4: Combined Line-haul and switch for the 5 major railroad operations in NJ
 - ◆ North New Jersey Commercial Marine Vessels (CMV) emissions and comparison with Port Activity & NJ Inventory
2. NESCAUM/Center for Clean Air Policy report: "Controlling Airport-Related Air Pollution"
3. PM 2.5 Emission Benefits of Diesel Non-road Scrappage Program

Introduction/Announcements.

1. DEP reminded everyone that the purpose of the workgroup is to develop a menu of control strategies to be submitted to Commissioner Campbell for consideration as the DEP develops its State Implementation Plan. The workgroup will evaluate each strategy based on technical and economic feasibility and environmental and health benefits, but will not eliminate any strategy. DEP will pen the report, but the report will be the voice of the workgroup, not the voice of the DEP writers.
2. New participants included Robert Belzer of the NJ Coalition Against Aircraft Pollution and Wilbur McNeil of the Weequahic Park Association.

Discussion

Topic 1: Ellen Bourbon of the Board of Public Utilities gave a presentation on state efforts to promote biodiesel, its availability, characteristics and use. She stated that most grant money to fund the incremental cost of biodiesel has been spent, but she is actively pursuing other sources of funding.

Discussion: Sprague Energy was asked to confirm the availability of an adequate supply of biodiesel for the state. In a subsequent conversation with Sprague Energy, they have stated that there is an adequate supply of biodiesel.

Topic 2: Inventory information on various diesel sources.

Discussion: There was some discussion about how emissions are calculated from locomotive fuel use. Jim Koronaides of the Air Planning program explained that any additional data from freight companies would be useful in refining this data and was more than welcome. NJ Transit is a significant source of locomotive emissions, since they travel within state exclusively.

Topic 3: Diesel/electric buses at airport

Discussion: Participants believed that VALE program funding from the FAA was used to fund diesel/electric buses at Newark airport (this program gives offset credits to offset increases in emissions from flight traffic). Currently, the DEP is working with Newark-Liberty airport to obtain VALE funding to help modernize the parking lot bus fleet. These are transit-style diesel buses that service the airport facilities, mostly for the parking lots, and are apparently all about 12-24 years old and are nearing the end of their service life. The airport would purchase hybrid-diesel electric Orion 7 buses meeting the 2007 standards. The incremental cost of these hybrid buses would be paid for by the VALE funding. Newark-Liberty has to submit a proposal to DEP for the purchase of these buses. This proposal is still pending.

VALE is a pot of funding that can be used to offset incremental costs for acquisition of low emissions equipment. The catch is that the VALE money can only be used on publicly-owned equipment. The ground support equipment at Newark Airport is owned by the airlines. The exceptions are fire/snow/groundskeeping equipment and the buses.

Topic 4: Locating trucking warehouse/distribution facilities.

Discussion: There was discussion of the need for DEP to support brownfields redevelopment for warehouse/distribution facilities, rather than locate these facilities in areas without infrastructure to support them. While this will result in lower vehicle miles traveled, this raises environmental justice issues as well as economic development issues.

Topic 5: Miscellaneous assgts

Bonnie Hulkower to send link to group for article on cold ironing in California.
Faye Blondin to ascertain IMO-SECA status.

Wrap-up

Next meeting is Monday, September 26 at NJTPA from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Conference call information is as follows, but keep in mind that there is a maximum of 5 callers allowed:

Call-in # (609) 826-3600

Bridge # 19201

Password # 567890
